



## World Refugee Day Champions of Change

On June 25, 2015, the White House will commemorate World Refugee Day by hosting an event to honor resettled refugees who are leaders in their communities and individuals who are committed to providing protection and assistance to refugee populations abroad and here in the United States. Since 1975, the United States has resettled over 3 million refugees across the country, and these refugees and their families are contributing greatly to their new communities. The United States is also the world's largest donor of humanitarian assistance.

World Refugee Day, celebrated each year on June 20<sup>th</sup>, promotes public awareness about who refugees are, the challenges they face, the importance of providing protection and assistance to them, and the contributions they make in a variety of contexts, including in building strong, welcoming American communities.

This June, we seek to highlight resettled refugees and individuals who are leading efforts to raise awareness about the challenges faced by refugees around the world, and making efforts to provide protection and assistance to refugees abroad and to ensure a warm reception to refugees here in the United States. We will celebrate the impact they are having in the lives of refugees in their communities and all over the world.

Please help us identify outstanding resettled refugees and refugee service providers in the following categories:

- **Leaders in Resettlement & Integration:** Do you know a resettled refugee or refugee service provider who is leading their communities by helping other immigrants and refugees integrate? Is this individual promoting the integration through civic engagement, skill development, economic opportunity, and education in refugee communities? Is this individual leading efforts to build welcoming, inclusive communities?
- **Leaders in Refugee Advocacy and Protection:** Do you know a resettled refugee or leader advocating for the protection of refugees and refugee rights here and/or abroad? Is this individual empowering refugees by ensuring their voices are heard and inspiring stories are promoted? Is this individual advocating for needs of refugees? Is this individual actively providing humanitarian assistance for refugee populations abroad?

We invite you to submit your nominations by noon on **May 26, 2015**. Please send the name, biography and email and contact number for the person you think should be a recognized as a White House Champion of Change to [champions@who.eop.gov](mailto:champions@who.eop.gov).

This Champions of Change event is part of ongoing efforts of the [White House Task Force on New Americans](#) to better integrate new Americans and build welcoming communities. This Champions of Change event is also part of broader U.S. government efforts to respond to challenges faced by refugees

around the world. We are looking forward to hosting this event and to highlighting the great work of individuals and organizations across the country and around the world to provide assistance to and advance the protection, resettlement and integration of refugee populations. Please note that this event has not yet been made public – we ask that you please refrain from posting about it on social media or publicizing the event in other ways until it is made public.